

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-14
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TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY

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USSALTTWO/CTB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: APRIL 14 PRESS ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS
CONTROL INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR

1. UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, IN DISPATCH FROM CASTEAU,
BELGIUM, QUOTED NATO COMMANDER HAIG AS WARNING THAT ANY
QUARRELING BETWEEN EUROPE AND U.S. OVER PRESIDENT CARTER'S
FREEZE ON NEUTRON BOMB PRODUCTION WOULD PLAY INTO HANDS OF
SOVIETS IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO DIVIDE ALLIANCE. IN EXCLUSIVE
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INTERVIEW, HAIG CALLED SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA "UNAC-
CEPTABLE" AND WARNED THAT THEY COULD HAVE "PROFOUND IMPACT
ON HEALTH AND VITALITY OF ALLIANCE."

2. DAVID WILLIS OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, REPORTING
FROM MOSCOW, SAID CAUTIOUS HOPE IS EMERGING AMONG WESTERN
ANALYSTS THAT STALLED SALT NEGOTIATIONS, "WHICH HOLD KEY

TO EAST-WEST DETENTE", MAY BE ABOUT TO SHOW NEW MOVEMENT. HE SAID SOME ANALYSTS EVEN SEE POSSIBLE FINAL SALT AGREEMENT SOME TIME THIS SUMMER, ALTHOUGH THEY ADMIT THAT SOME TOUGH AND BASIC POLITICAL DECISIONS REMAIN TO BE TAKEN BY BOTH SIDES." HE CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT SENATE RATIFICATION OF SALT AGREEMENT "IS SEEN AS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE IF

SOVIETS CONTINUE TO USE THEIR OWN AND CUBAN FORCES IN ETHIOPIA AND ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA, AS WELL AS CRACKING DOWN ON POLITICAL DISSIDENTS AT HOME."

3. MICHAEL GETLER OF WASHINGTON POST, IN DISPATCH FROM BONN, SAID DEFENSE SECRETARY BROWN TOLD PRESS CONFERENCE THAT SIMPLE ASSERTION BY SOVIET UNION THAT IT WOULD ALSO REFRAIN FROM PRODUCING NEUTRON WEAPONS WOULD BE "AN UNSATISFACTORY RESPONSE" TO CARTER'S DECISION TO DEFER PRODUCTION OF THOSE WEAPONS FOR ALLIED ARSENALS. BROWN, HE SAID, MADE IT CLEAR THAT EVENTUAL U.S. DECISION RESTED ON SOVIET WILLINGNESS TO RESTRICT WEAPONS THAT THREATEN WESTERN EUROPE SUCH AS LARGE NUMBERS OF TANKS OR MEDIUM RANGE NUCLEAR-TIPPED SS-20 MISSILES. BROWN POINTED OUT THAT SOVIETS FACE NO TANK THREAT FROM WEST AND THEREFORE SOVIET OFFER TO MERELY MATCH U.S. DECISION WOULD BE INSUFFICIENT, GETLER REPORTED. "BROWN ALSO SEEMED TO SUGGEST THAT SOVIET RESTRAINT ON SS-20 MISSILES -- WHICH CAN HIT ANY TARGET IN EUROPE FROM BASES IN SOVIET UNION -- UNCLASSIFIED

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IS WHAT CARTER ADMINISTRATION SEEKS RATHER THAN JUST REDUCTIONS IN TANK DEPLOYMENTS."

4. NEW YORK TIMES PUBLISHED REUTER DISPATCH FROM BONN REPORTING THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT TOLD PARLIAMENT THAT WEST GERMANY TOLD WASHINGTON SIX MONTHS AGO THAT IT WAS READY TO ACCEPT STATIONING OF NEUTRON WEAPONS ON ITS TERRITORY. REUTER SAID SCHMIDT DENIED OPPOSITION CHARGES THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD WAVERED IN ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD NEUTRON WEAPONS. SCHMIDT INSISTED THAT BONN'S POLICY HAD NOT CHANGED SINCE START OF TALKS WITH U.S. LAST FALL ON NEUTRON WARHEAD. SCHMIDT SAID CARTER WAS RIGHT TO KEEP HIS OPTIONS OPEN, AND ASSERTED THAT WEST GERMANY WAS READY TO STATION NEUTRON WEAPONS ON ITS TERRITORY IF NECESSARY.

5. NEW YORK TIMES PUBLISHED REUTER DISPATCH FROM MOSCOW REPORTING THAT SOVIET UNION SAID IF WASHINGTON DROPPED SOME "OBVIOUSLY UNREALISTIC DEMANDS" THERE WAS GOOD CHANCE OF PROGRESS ON LIMITING STRATEGIC ARMS DURING SECRETARY VANCE'S VISIT NEXT WEEK. UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL SAID SENIOR POLITICAL ANALYST YURI KORNILOV,

WRITING IN PRAVDA, DECLARED "IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT ACHIEVEMENT OF SALT AGREEMENT IS POSSIBLE ONLY IF KEY PRINCIPLE OF THIS AGREEMENT -- PRINCIPLE OF EQUALITY AND EQUAL SECURITY OF BOTH SIDES -- IS OBSERVED MOST STRICTLY."

6. ROBERT KAYLOR OF UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL SAID PENTAGON IS HOLDING OFF AT LEAST TEMPORARILY ON DOUBLING

DESTRUCTIVE POWER OF SOME MINUTEMAN MISSILE WARHEADS BECAUSE IT FACES SQUEEZE IN NUCLEAR SUPPLIES. KAYLOR SAID SENIOR DEFENSE OFFICIAL STATED THAT EXPECTED INCREASED DEMANDS FOR NUCLEAR MATERIAL FOR PEACEFUL USES HAVE CAUSED MORE CAUTIOUS APPROACH BY PENTAGON BECAUSE OF UNCLASSIFIED

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FORECASTS OF PRODUCTION SHORTAGES BY MID-1980S AND BEYOND. OFFICIAL SAID AS RESULT GREATER CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN TO DIFFERENT WARHEAD DESIGNS FOR VARIOUS TYPES OF WEAPONS THAT WOULD REQUIRE SMALLER AMOUNTS OF FISSIONABLE MATERIAL. "NEED FOR UP TO 1,000 NEW WARHEADS FOR CRUISE MISSILES AND OTHER NEW WEAPONS, INCLUDING WARHEADS TO REPLACE TACTICAL WEAPONS THAT HAVE BEEN IN EUROPE SINCE 1950S, ALSO IS FACTOR," OFFICIAL TOLD UPI.

7. JOHN BARTON OF UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL SAID ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE CHARLES MAYNES TOLD SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE YESTERDAY THAT U.S. IS NOT TRYING TO RUSH COMPLETION OF SECOND SALT AGREEMENT SO IT CAN BE ANNOUNCED DURING SSOD. "TWO ARE NOT LINKED," MAYNES SAID. "TIMETABLE FOR SALT TWO TALKS IS MOVING FORWARD ON ITS OWN MERIT, NOT FOR SOME OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE AN IMPORTANT STATEMENT AT SPECIAL SESSION. TWO ARE NOT LINKED, ALTHOUGH SOONER SALT TALKS ARE CONCLUDED, BETTER." SENATOR JOHN GLENN SAID HE WAS IRRITATED BECAUSE ADMINISTRATION HAD NOT PROVIDED HIM INFORMATION HE REQUESTED LAST NOVEMBER ABOUT SALT TWO VERIFICATION PLANS. GLENN SAID HE IS CONSIDERING VOTING AGAINST ANY SALT TWO TREATY IF THAT INFORMATION IS NOT PROVIDED HIM. MAYNES, SPEAKING OF SSOD, SAID "WE SHOULD ALL HAVE REALISTIC VIEW OF RESULTS. THERE WILL BE NO DRAMATIC BREAKTHROUGHS IN ARMS CONTROL OR DISARMAMENT." CHRISTOPHER

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